

a community spirit into the organizations that we have. But I thought President Hoover's speech was worthy of a good deal of thought by us.

[21.] Q. Mr. President, do you have any information or indication that Communist-bloc troops or new supplies of any kind have been landed in Cuba recently?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, new supplies definitely, in large quantities. Troops? We do not have information, but an increased number of technicians.

Q. What is the significance of this, in your opinion?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, we are examining it now.

Q. Do you think it is aimed at any other Central American country?

THE PRESIDENT. No, there is no evidence of that. And we're not talking about—as far as the numbers—we're not talking about the kind of entrants in numbers which would provide support for the sort of operation you suggested. What we are talking about are supplies and technicians of a rather intensive quantity in recent weeks.

[22.] Q. Mr. President, the Acoma Indians of New Mexico recently asked the Government to send Peace Corps technicians to their reservation. They were turned down. In view of the extensive efforts being made abroad, why can't we extend this kind of service to Indian groups within our own borders that are every bit as depressed as some of the foreign groups that we're helping?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am not familiar with that. I think—the Peace Corps was set up to be sent abroad. Mr. Shriver and others have suggested setting up a Peace Corps at home and we have now been looking into that. But I haven't heard of this proposal. Whether we should particularly do it with the Indians I think is worth looking at.

[23.] Q. Mr. President, can you tell us how much time you expect to be devoting to the campaign this fall?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I can't, but I will be

devoting some of my time in October and in late September.

[24.] Q. Mr. President, speaking of non-political matters, as you were a minute ago, the recent defeat of Congressman Frazier in Tennessee and the very close call of Congressman Loser have been blamed by some of the labor groups on their opposition to your bill on medicare through the higher social security taxes. Are you pleased with these results? Do you agree with that analysis and do you think you'll use this issue a little bit more in the other races?

THE PRESIDENT. I've always said that I thought health care for the aged would be a very important issue this fall, and that the American people would make a judgment. I think that that will certainly be one of the factors they will take into consideration in deciding which members they will support. I think this bill is essential, very valuable, very important, very responsible, and I think it will be an important issue in the fall. And I think it's been proven already to be.

[25.] Q. Mr. President, I understand that airlines between the United States and Europe are already heavily booked for U.S. tourist travel to Europe as soon as the lower fares go into effect in the fall. My questions are two:

First, are you concerned about this heavy spending and what it's going to do to our gold reserves for the last quarter of the year; and, two, do you think that service families will be happy to be separated from their military husband-fathers who are again being sent to Europe, this time for a 6-month tour, starting in October, when they read of other Americans free spending in Europe while they are being kept home to save the gold drain?

THE PRESIDENT. I think it is very difficult for a good many of them to understand the difference between the burdens and obligations put on those in the public service and the freedom which is available to those in private life. We lose a billion dollars a year in our balance of payments between what we spend abroad as tourists and what we

spend—what tourists spend here. But Americans move freely and I think we have to do the best we can to bring our balance of payments into balance.

We're asking the servicemen to accept this sacrifice. We've not attempted to limit Americans going abroad, and I don't think that it would be desirable. We're trying to emphasize the freedom of goods to move, people to move, and all the rest, capital to move, and we are hopeful, however, as I've said before, that by the end of 1963 we'll have brought our balance of payments into sufficient balance to permit American troops greater freedoms than they now have in this regard.

[26.] Q. Mr. President, you spoke of the increased supplies going to Cuba. What countries are they going there from?

THE PRESIDENT. Oh, the bloc.

[27.] Q. Mr. President, would you comment on George Humphrey's charge that the stockpiling investigation is a stab at the back of President Eisenhower, and also do you think that the profits made by his Hanna Nickel Company are the unconscionable profits that you referred to back in January?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, they are extremely large profits with very little risk to the company—extremely large profits. Now of course, the Hanna Company, itself, was investigated, not Mr. Humphrey as a responsible official of the Hanna Company, so I don't really see how—I can quite understand the desire of some witnesses to identify themselves with President Eisenhower or to limit the investigation by charging that it's an attack on President Eisenhower, but I think the Congress ought to do its job.

There are billions and billions involved in this stockpiling and I think it's important that the American people know how much

was paid and who made the money out of it and that's what's being done in this case. And there'll be other cases coming up after the Hanna case, because there are other very large profits involved by a good many other people.

[28.] Q. Mr. President, 4 months ago you nominated former Governor Almond of Virginia to the U.S. Court of Customs and Patent Appeals. Since that time the Senate Judiciary Committee has done nothing whatever towards his confirmation. I wonder if you will comment on that situation, and also if you will say whether you plan to make a recess appointment if the Senate fails to act?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't quite understand why the Senate is failing to act. Governor Almond is a distinguished Governor of Virginia. It was my understanding when his name was sent up there that there was no objection by the Senators involved. I regret very much that the Senate isn't acting. I hope it will before the Senate has ended. I will make a judgment on what we do if it doesn't act at that time. But I'm still hopeful that the Senate will act because I think Governor Almond would be a very good judge.

[29.] Q. As a result of your agreement with President Sukarno, Mr. President, you have sent an economic survey team to Indonesia known as the Humphrey mission. Would you comment on the content or recommendations of the Humphrey report?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I think we better wait until the matter has been examined by the Government.

Reporter: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Kennedy's forty-first news conference was held in the State Department Auditorium at 4 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, August 22, 1962.